

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT M 00848 060412Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 DLOS-09 IO-13 L-03
PM-05 SP-02 SS-15 H-01 OIC-02 INR-10 SSO-00
INRE-00 /086 W
-----080619 060419Z /17-R

O R 060010Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3338
INFO AMEMBASSY SUVA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC HONOLULU
CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT MORESBY 0848

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

CINCPACREP GUAM PASS STATUS LNO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, PP
SUBJECT: SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES AGENCY (SPRFA)

REF: WELLINGTON 02789

1. AFTER I RETURNED FROM HONIARA LATE JUNE 1, I LEARNED
THAT NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSIONER MANSFIELD HAD CALLED ON
PRIME MINISTER SOMARE WHOSE REACTION WAS AS REPORTED IN
REFTEL. MANSFIELD WAS CALLED IN THE FOLLOWING DAY BY
FOREIGN MINISTER OLEWALE, AND REFTEL DOES NOT ADEQUATELY
COVER THAT CONVERSATION.

2. ACCORDING TO MANSFIELD, OLEWALE WAS SUPPORTED BY TWO
EXPATRIATE LAWYERS (PAT LAVENDER AND BRIAN ELY), AND THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PORT M 00848 060412Z

CONVERSATION WAS TENSE, WITH THE TWO LAWYERS ACTING LIKE
PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS. OLEWALE HIMSELF WAS QUITE
VEHEMENT IN INSISTING THAT PNG'S POSITION HAD NOT CHANGED
AND THAT THE APPARENT SOFTENING INDICATED BY SOMARE SHOULD
BE DISREGARDED. OLEWALE MADE SEVERAL COMMENTS TO EFFECT
THAT USG DID NOT RESPECT PNG SOVEREIGNTY. HE CONTRASTED
US WITH JAPANESE ON SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE, POINTING OUT THAT

JAPANESE HAD CONCLUDED BILATERAL TREATY WITH PNG THUS RECOGNIZING PNG'S SOVEREIGNTY OVER TUNA. HE SAID THAT USG SEEMED UNCONCERNED THAT ITS VESSELS WERE NOW SEEKING TO FISH IN PNG WATERS WITHOUT A BILATERAL TREATY. LEGAL ADVISOR THEN SAID THAT IF US WAS SINCERE IN ITS CLAIM THAT TREATY ARRANGEMENTS OVERRODE ITS DOMESTIC LEGISLATION IT WOULD CONCLUDE BILATERAL WITH PNG AS PROOF.

3. AUSTRALIAN DEPUTY HICOM WILLIAMS TOLD ME JUNE 2 THAT HE HAD LEARNED FROM GPNG THAT OLEWALE WAS ANGERED BY MANSFIELD'S APPROACH TO SOMARE. OLEWALE, ACCORDING TO WILLIAMS, CONSIDERED IT A SLAP TO GO OVER HIS HEAD TO SOMARE. WILLIAMS SAID MANSFIELD'S APPROACH SERVED TO HARDEN THE PNG LINE AT A TIME WHEN IT APPEARED TO BE SOFTENING. WILLIAMS OBVIOUSLY REGARDED THIS EPISODE AS A DIPLOMATIC BLUNDER.

4. COMMENT: WILLIAMS PROBABLY OVERSTATED THE GPNG REACTION, ALTHOUGH DFAT HAS BEEN VERY BUREAUCRATIC IN ITS REACTION AT OTHER TIMES WHEN FOREIGN AFFAIRS PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO SOMARE. MANSFIELD HIMSELF WAS NOT TOO HAPPY ABOUT THE OUTCOME. THE AUSTRALIANS HAVE BEEN PREACHING THAT THEY SHOULD NOT GET OUT IN FRONT ON THE SPRFA ISSUE, AND PROBABLY FEEL VINDICATED NOW THAT MANSFIELD HAS SEEMINGLY AROUSED AN ADVERSE REACTION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PORT M 00848 060412Z

5. I WILL TRY TO REACH BUSBY BY TELEPHONE TO GET HIS ADVICE ON HOW TO HANDLE THE BILATERAL TREATY IDEA. THIS HAS NOT BEEN RAISED WITH US BEFORE. THEN I PLAN TO SEE OLEWALE, BUT I THINK IT IS WISER NOT TO APPROACH SOMARE NOW. OLEWALE WAS MOST FRIENDLY AT COCKTAIL PARTY AT RESIDENCE FOR BODDE AND QUITE OUTDID HIMSELF IN BEING PRO-AMERICAN.

6. WELLINGTON 02789 DATED 26 MAY REACHED PORT MORESBY ON JUNE 5.
OLMSTED

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISHERIES, TUNA, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PORTM00848
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780235-0392
Format: TEL
From: PORT MORESBY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780691/aaaadaom.tel
Line Count: 105
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 46066e91-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 WELLINGTON 2789
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2475868
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES AGENCY (SPRFA)
TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, PP, SPRFO, (OLEWALE, EBIA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/46066e91-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014